Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Upper Arkansas WS - Grazingland

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: Upper Arkansas WS - Grazingland		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	Yes O or No O
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes O or No O
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes O or No O
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	Yes O or No O
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes O or No O
6. c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes O or No O
6. e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	Yes O or No O

7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants?	Yes O or No O
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	Yes O or No O
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes O or No O
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes O or No O

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the project reduce the amount of nutrients/pesticides/salt/selenium or other pollutants entering ground or surface waters?	Yes O or No O
2. Will the planned practice(s) promote water conservation on the contracted acres?	Yes O or No O
3. Does the project increase the diversity of desirable plants on grazing lands?	Yes O or No O
4. Does the project improve the health of riparian and/or wetland areas?	Yes O or No O
5. Does the project improve habitat for a wildlife species currently categorized as a State or Federal T&E species, Federal Candidate or Proposed species, or State Species of Concern?	Yes O or No O
6. Will the planned practice(s) reduce irrigation induced or streambank erosion?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is there a current COMPLETE resource management conservation plan (RMS) for all landuses in place?	Yes O or No O
2. If application is funded, will this be the applicant's first EQIP contract for this resource issue?	Yes O or No O
3. Is this application a joint/coperative agreement associated with a targeted effort for control of invasive species?	Yes O or No O
4. Will grazing land monitoring be conducted by any one of the following methods (photo points, forage analysis, permanent transects)?	Yes O or No O
5. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improve and enhance wildlife habitat as a part of the overall operation of the agricultural enterprise, including invasive species control?	Yes O or No O
6. ALTERNATIVE & RENEWABLE ENERGY: Has at least one question in the National Priority ranking section been answered "yes," AND is the proposed project located in an area where the Wind Power Class or its verified equivalence is at least 3, AND will the wind turbine power plant serve as an alternative to an existing, fossil fuel dependent power source?	Yes O or No O
7. ALTERNATIVE & RENEWABLE ENERGY: Has at least one question in the National Priority ranking section been answered "yes," AND is the proposed project located in an area where the Photovoltaic array has full exposure to full sunlight, AND will the solar power plant serve as an alternative to an existing, fossil fuel dependent power source?	Yes O or No O
8. Does the conservation treatment include the transitioning of previously enrolled or currently enrolled, but soon to be expired CRP lands as part of the grazing system?	Yes O or No O
BENCHMARK CONDITION and DESCRIPTION: Inventory assessment of existing (Benchmark) site specific rangeland/Grazingland condition that targets rangelands with the lowest similarity index and pastureland with lowest productivity index-RANGELAND SIMILARITY INDEX. (Answer only one, 9a-9d, yes, if applicable)	
9. a. Is the Rangeland Similarity Index >0 but <=25?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Is the Rangeland Similarity Index >25 but <=50?	Yes O or No O
9. c. Is the Rangeland Similarity Index >50 but <=75?	Yes O or No O
9. d. Is the Rangeland Similarity Index >75?	Yes O or No O

BENCHMARK CONDITION and DESCRIPTION: Inventory assessment of existing (Benchmark) site specific rangeland/Grazingland condition that targets rangelands with the lowest similarity index and pastureland with lowest productivity index-PASTURE PRODUCTIVITY INDEX. (Answer only one, 10a-10d, yes, if applicable)	
10. a. Is the Pasture Productivity Index >0 but <=25?	Yes O or No O
10. b. Is the Pasture Productivity Index >25 but <=50?	Yes O or No O
10. c. Is the Pasture Productivity Index >50 but <=75?	Yes O or No O
10. d. Is the Pasture Productivity Index >75?	Yes O or No O
GRAZING SYSTEM-PLANNED CONDITION and DESCRIPTION: A. Conservation treatment that will be implemented that results in enhanced plant diversity and vigor by improved management of the GRAZING ROTATION. (Answer only one, 11a-11e, yes, if applicable)	
11. a. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a switchback system?	Yes O or No O
11. b. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a rest-rotation system?	Yes O or No O
11. c. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a deferred rotation system?	Yes O or No O
11. d. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a limited pasture rotation grazing system?	Yes O or No O
11. e. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a standard short duration cell grazing system?	Yes O or No O
GRAZING SYSTEM-PLANNED CONDITION and DESCRIPTION: B. Conservation treatment that will be implemented that results in enhanced plant diversity and vigor by improved management of the GRAZING DURATION/REST PERIODS. (Answer only one, 12a-12b, yes, if applicable)	
12. a. Does the conservation treatment include modification of grazing duration to allow each pasture to be grazed during growing season for 15 days or less each time AND each pasture grazed at a different time from year to year?	Yes O or No O
12. b. Does the conservation treatment include modification of grazing duration such that a scheduled rotation is used that will allow the grazing duration in each pasture to be greater than 15 days but less than or equal to 30 days AND each pasture is grazed at a different time from year to year?	Yes O or No O
GROUND COVER IMPROVEMENT/UNDERSTORY RESTORATION-PLANNED CONDITION and DESCRIPTION: Conservation treament that will be implemented that results in improvement and renovation of ground cover, plant community and understory from impacts. (Answer only one, 13a-13d, yes, if applicable)	
13. a. Reseeding-Percent (%) of total acres reseeded >0 but =<10?	Yes O or No O
13. b. Reseeding-Percent (%) of total acres reseeded >10 but =<25?	Yes O or No O
13. c. Reseeding-Percent (%) of total acres reseeded >25 but =<50?	Yes O or No O
13. d. Reseeding-Percent (%) of total acres reseeded >50?	Yes O or No O
ENHANCED PLANT COMMUNITY/UNDERSTORY IMPROVEMENT-PLANNED CONDITION and DESCRIPTION: A. Conservation treament that will be implemented that results in plant community and understory improvement. Points based on the percent (%) of the total acres of Brush Management. (Answer only one, 14a-14d, yes, if applicable)	
14. a. Brush Management-Percent (%) of total offered acres >0 but =<5?	Yes O or No O
14. b. Brush Management-Percent (%) of total offered acres >5 but =<12?	Yes O or No O
14. c. Brush Management-Percent (%) of total offered acres >12 but =<20?	Yes O or No O
14. d. Brush Management-Percent (%) of total offered acres >20	Yes O or No O
ENHANCED PLANT COMMUNITY/UNDERSTORY IMPROVEMENT-PLANNED CONDITION and DESCRIPTION: B. Conservation treament that will be implemented that results in plant community and understory improvement with control of noxious weeds. Points based on the targeted weed species. (Answer only one, 15a-15c, yes, if applicable)	
15. a. Control of Colorado List A targeted species	Yes O or No O
15. b. Control of Colorado List B targeted species	Yes O or No O
15. c. Control of Colorado List C targeted species	Yes O or No O

Conservation treatment resulting in reduction of concentrated water erosion on offered acres as documented on CPA-52. Points are based on the percent of the offered acres affected by ephemeral and/or classic gullies that will be addressed with the conservation treatment.	
16. a. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >0 but =<10?	Yes O or No O
16. b. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >10 but =<25?	Yes O or No O
16. c. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >25 but =<50?	Yes O or No O
16. d. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >50 but =<75?	Yes O or No O
16. e. Percent (%) of applicable acres affected by concentrated flow that are treated >75?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

Efficiency:

Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: **Signature Date:**	**Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:** **Signature Date:**